



TO: Dr. Michael Riggle
FROM: Rosanne Williamson
RE: Draft of the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar for Review
DATE: May 16, 2018

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the proposed school calendar for 2019-2020 that has the following features:

- school begins one week earlier than in the past
- final exams and conclusion of first semester take place before winter break
- spring break remains the last full week in March
- graduation will take place on the same weekend as in the past
- school ends a week earlier than in the past

Following Board discussion, the final calendar would be placed on the consent agenda at the June 25, 2018 Board meeting.

Background

Student wellness emerged as a central theme of the recent district strategic planning process. The District is engaged in a number of initiatives that aim toward decreasing student stress and improving students wellness. One of these initiatives centered around whether final exams and a conclusion of first semester before winter break would reduce stress for students by providing a “real” break in late December/early January.

To gather feedback and information, the District administered a survey to students, staff, and parents in Spring 2017. The results of this survey indicated the need to further study the question. Dr. Riggle formed a Calendar Committee comprised of 27 members, including district administrators, principals, assistant principals, athletic directors, instructional supervisors, and members from GEA, GESSA, and GESPA. This committee met several times over the past year to carefully review the survey results, draft and discuss possible calendars, gather anecdotal evidence from surrounding districts that have made this change, and administer a second survey in Spring 2018 to all staff.

After lengthy consideration of the issue, the Calendar Committee determined that a shift to this calendar would remove the responsibility of preparing for final exams and completing assignments during winter break as well as bring closure to the first half of the school year.

In the spirit of student wellness, each building leadership team will work throughout the 2018-2019 school year to create a schedule for 2019-2020 that preserves the Glenbrook experience for students while taking into account the need for balance in students’ lives. The two teams will communicate, as they typically do, to align the two high school schedules in support of the three A’s: Academics, Athletics, Activities.

Summary of Survey Results

Spring 2017

- Students (917 responses): 65% collegiate; 35% traditional
- Staff
 - Certified (327 responses): 52% collegiate; 48% traditional
 - Non-Certified (107 responses): 63% collegiate; 37% traditional
- Parents (757 responses): 54% collegiate; 46% traditional

Spring 2018

- Staff
 - Certified (427): 43% collegiate; 46% traditional; 11% no preference
 - Non-certified (132): 43% collegiate; 39% traditional; 18% no preference
- Principals, Activities Directors, Department Chairs, Athletic Directors from Surrounding Districts that Have Shifted to Collegiate Calendar
 - “Students get a real break - very little homework/project work assigned now that we've shifted; We don't get the "skill loss" over winter break with the scant few days following for finals”
 - “It’s a “true break” for both teachers and students. There are no major projects or tests looming over students as they go into the break. In addition, a fresh semester can begin in the new year, rather than taking two weeks to review and do finals, then start another semester”
 - “Make the change, this has been universally popular in our school district (students love it, parents love it, vast majority of teachers are fine with it)”
 - “It was a bit difficult the first year because teachers needed to adjust their timing of how they taught their courses, but now, in the 2nd year, everyone has adjusted and it is very popular. I don't think anyone wants to go back to the old schedule”
 - “Although there are growing pains, the benefits to students and staff far outweigh the negatives”

Other Schools with or Moving to Collegiate Calendar	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evanston (19-20) ● Niles North ● Niles West ● Maine East ● Maine South ● Maine West ● Vernon Hills ● Libertyville ● Highland Park (18-19) ● Deerfield (18-19) ● Stevenson ● Conant ● Palatine ● Fremd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schaumburg ● Elk Grove ● Rolling Meadows ● Hoffman Estates ● Hersey ● Wheeling ● Buffalo Grove ● Prospect ● Antioch ● Lakes ● Grayslake North ● Grayslake Central ● Loyola ● Barrington

Public School Calendar – Collegiate

2019-2020 Proposed Public School Calendar for Northfield Twp HSD 225

Codes: X = attendance day; XHI, XHPT, XID, XDS, XHS, XHSW, XHIH, XHPH, XHSH = half attendance day; XH = holiday attendance waiver; FPT, FPTH, WFPT = full day parent teacher conference; FI, WFI, FIIH = teacher inservice; PI, TI, TIIH = parent/teacher institute; ED = emergency day; XED = proposed emergency day; HOL = holiday; NIA = not in attendance

Total Days of Attendance: 188 Regular Day: Instruct. Day Lgth:

July 2019							August 2019							September 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
1	2	3	4 HOL	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2 HOL	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7	8
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12 G	13 G	14 X	15 X	16 X	17	18	9 X	10 X	11 X	12 X	13 X	14	15
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19 X	20 X	21 X	22 X	23 X	24	25	16 X	17 X	18 X	19 X	20 X	21	22
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26 X	27 X	28 X	29 X	30 X	31	1	23 X	24 X	25 X	26 X	27 X	28	29
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	30 NIA	1	2	3	4	5	6

July Atnd: 0 Accum: 0 Aug Atnd: 13 Accum: 13 Sept Atnd: 19 Accum: 32

October 2019							November 2019							December 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	1 X	2 X	3 X	4 X	5	6	28	29	30	31	1 X	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
7 X	8 X	9 NIA	10 X	11 X	12	13	4 X	5 X	6 X	7 X	8 X	9	10	2 X	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7	8
14 X	15 X	16 X	17 X	18 X	19	20	11 HOL	12 X	13 X	14 X	15 X	16	17	9 X	10 X	11 X	12 X	13 X	14	15
21 X	22 X	23 X	24 X	25 X	26	27	18 X	19 X	20 X	21 X	22 X	23	24	16 X	17 X	18 X	19 X	20 X	21	22
28 X	29 X	30 X	31 X	1	2	3	25 X	26 X	27 NIA	28 HOL	29 NIA	30	1	23 NIA	24 NIA	25 HOL	26 NIA	27 NIA	28	29
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	30 NIA	31 NIA	1	2	3	4	5

Oct Atnd: 22 Accum: 53 Nov Atnd: 17 Accum: 71 Dec Atnd: 15 Accum: 86

January 2020							February 2020							March 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	31	1 NIA	2 NIA	3 NIA	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	1
6 TI	7 X	8 X	9 X	10 X	11	12	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7 X	8	9	2 TI	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7	8
13 X	14 X	15 X	16 X	17 X	18	19	10 X	11 X	12 X	13 X	14 X	15	16	9 X	10 X	11 X	12 X	13 X	14	15
20 HOL	21 X	22 X	23 X	24 X	25	26	17 XED	18 X	19 X	20 X	21 X	22	23	16 X	17 X	18 X	19 X	20 X	21	22
27 X	28 X	29 X	30 X	31 X	1	2	24 X	25 X	26 X	27 X	28 X	29	1	23 NIA	24 NIA	25 NIA	26 NIA	27 NIA	28	29
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	30 XED	31 X	1	2	3	4	5

Jan Atnd: 18 Accum: 104 Feb Atnd: 19 Accum: 123 Mar Atnd: 15 Accum: 138

April 2020							May 2020							June 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	31	1 X	2 X	3 X	4	5	27	28	29	30	1 X	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
6 X	7 X	8 X	9 X	10 NIA	11	12	4 X	5 X	6 X	7 X	8 X	9	10	1 XED	2 XED	3 XED	4 XED	5 XED	6 XED	7
13 X	14 X	15 X	16 X	17 X	18	19	11 X	12 X	13 X	14 X	15 X	16	17	8 XED	9 XED	10 XED	11	12	13	14
20 X	21 X	22 X	23 X	24 X	25	26	18 X	19 X	20 X	21 X	22 X	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
27 X	28 X	29 X	30 X	1	2	3	25 HOL	26 X	27 X	28 X	29 G	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Apr Atnd: 21 Accum: 159 May Atnd: 19 Accum: 178 June Atnd: Accum:

86	First Semester Days
92	Second Semester Days

Calendar Legend	
HOL	Holiday
NIA	Not in Attendance
XED	Emergency Day – Proposed